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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/544,709	04/06/2000	Vipin Samar	OR99-17501	9115

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ORACLE INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION
c/o A. RICHARD PARK
2820 FIFTH STREET
DAVIS, CA 95616-2914

EXAMINER

HENEGHAN, MATTHEW E

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2134

DATE MAILED: 02/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/544,709	SAMAR, VIPIN	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Matthew Heneghan	2134	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 November 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-6,8-18,20-23,25-35,37-40,42-52,54 and 55 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-6,8-18,20-23,25-35,37-40,42-52,54 and 55 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 06 April 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. In response to the previous office action, Applicant has amended claims 1, 3, 18, 20, 35, 37, 52, 54, and 55 and cancelled claims 2, 19, 36, and 53. Claims 1, 3-6, 8-18, 20-23, 25-35, 37-40, 42-52, 54, and 55 have been examined.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 1, 3-6, 8-18, 20-23, 25-35, 37-40, 42-52, 54, and 55 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1, 18, 35, 52, and 55 recite the limitation "the node" in the second limitation of each claim. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claims. In each case, it is presumed that this refers to the previously recited remote system.

All other claims depend from the rejected claims, and include all the limitations of those claims, thereby rendering those dependent claims indefinite.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 3-6, 8, 11-14, 16, 18, 20-23, 25, 28-31, 33, 35, 37-40, 42, 45-48, 50, 52, 54, and 55 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,629,246 to Gadi in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,189,103 to Nevarez et al. further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,689,638 to Sadovsky.

Regarding claims 1, 4-6, 11, 18, 21-23, 28, 35, 38-40, 45, 52, and 55, Gadi discloses a single sign-on system wherein a web server (the remote computer system) sends a sign-on module to a user's browser (the local computer system), which requests a password from the user. The module may use active content to effect the request, such as a Java[®] applet (see column 6, lines 25-45). A password is then generated that is specific to the target application (see column 6, line 58 to column 7, line 15). Gadi also discloses that a sign-on module's source should be authenticated using a digital signature (see column 8, lines 24-29).

Gadi discloses the use of security in applets, but does not disclose the authenticating of the sign-on module using a certificate chain.

Nevarez discloses strategies for servlet (applet) security including the use of a certificate chain, and suggests that this allows one to check whether a signer is trusted for a specific purpose (see column 2, line 63 to column 3, line 6).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Gadi by authenticating sign-on modules using certificate chains, as disclosed by Nevarez, as this allows one to check whether a signer is trusted for a specific purpose.

Gadi and Nevarez do not disclose the retrieving of a password from a password store after the determining of the master password, but only the deriving of the site-specific password from the master password via a hash function.

Sadovsky discloses the retrieving of passwords to applications using an encrypted database of passwords and caching authentication information for servers as they are used (see column 7, line 66 to column 8, line 29), and suggests there is a need to have completely independent client-server resources (see column 1, lines 54-56).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Gadi and Nevarez by retrieving passwords from an encrypted database of passwords and caching authentication information for servers as they are used, as disclosed by Sadovsky, as there is a need to have completely independent client-server resources.

Regarding claims 3, 20, 37, and 54, the Java[®] applets run on platform-independent virtual machines.

Regarding claims 8, 25, and 42, the user is prompted for a password only during the first sign-on (see Gadi, column 6, lines 46-57).

Regarding claims 12, 29, and 46, Gadi discloses automatic password generation, as described above.

Regarding claims 13, 30, and 47, in Sadovsky's modification, the user may be prompted for a password (see Sadovsky, column 8, lines 36-38).

Regarding claims 14, 31, and 48, since Sadovsky's database is encrypted, entries must be decrypted prior to use.

Regarding claims 16, 33, and 50, Sadovsky's database may be located on the hard drive (see Sadovsky, column 8, line 20).

4. Claims 9, 10, 26, 27, 43, and 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,629,246 to Gadi in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,189,103 to Nevarez et al. further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,689,638 to Sadovsky as applied to claims 1, 8, 18, 25, 35, and 42 above further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,715,082 to Chang et al.

Regarding claims 9, 26, and 43, Gadi, Nevarez, and Sadovsky do not disclose the expiration of passwords.

Chang discloses the expiration of passwords (see column 11, lines 17-26), and that a user may be prompted to re-enter authentication information if the information is no longer valid (see column 4, lines 31-63). This addresses the situation where an unauthorized user may attempt to access a server by stealing a computer (see column 2, lines 1-10).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Gadi, Nevarez, and Sadovsky by prompting a user to re-enter information after an expiration, as disclosed by Chang, as

this addresses the situation where an unauthorized user may attempt to access a server by stealing a computer.

Regarding claims 10, 27, and 44, Gadi, Nevarez, and Sadovsky do not disclose user authentication using smartcards.

Chang discloses user authentication using smartcards, and notes that in an arrangement having such a card, an unauthorized user will not be able to log into a network access server without obtaining the token card (see paragraph 2, lines 11-41).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Gadi, Nevarez, and Sadovsky by performing user authentication using smartcards, as disclosed by Chang, as an unauthorized user will not be able to log into a network access server without obtaining the token card.

5. Claims 15, 32, and 49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,629,246 to Gadi in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,189,103 to Nevarez et al. further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,689,638 to Sadovsky as applied to claims 1, 18, and 35 above further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,205,480 to Broadhurst et al.

Gadi, Nevarez, and Sadovsky only disclose the password cache being stored in the local computer system (see Sadovsky, above).

Broadhurst discloses the storing of user information on a central server and being accessed by delivering cookies (see column 4, lines 42-60), and notes that

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Sadovsky's system doesn't allow for authentication based upon a user's role (see column 1, lines 57-60).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Gadi, Nevarez, and Sadovsky by storing user information on a central server and being accessed by delivering cookies, as disclosed by Broadhurst, to allow for authentication based upon a user's role.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 17, 34, and 51 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: No art could be further above and beyond the cited art that would suggest the automatic replacement of a password for an application in such an invention with the appropriate updating of the relevant data fields.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments, see Remarks, filed 23 November 2005, with respect to the rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103 have been fully considered and are

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persuasive. Therefore, the rejections have been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of the art cited above.

Conclusion

9. Due to the introduction of new grounds of rejection, this action is non-final.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matthew E. Heneghan, whose telephone number is (571) 272-3834. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM Eastern Time.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Vu, can be reached at (571) 272-3859.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Or faxed to:

(571) 273-3800

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2100.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MEH



February 13, 2006



primary Examiner
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